

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 10-20 and 30, 32-42 are pending. Claims 5-9, 21-29, and 31 are canceled.

1. With respect to the restrictions, Applicants elect Group I relating to claims 1-4, 10-20, 30, and 32-42.

The Patent Office has identified three groupings of claims: Group I includes 1-4, 10-20, 30, 32-42, Group II includes claims 5-9, and Group III includes claims 21-29. As discussed in the telephone conversation with Examiner Previl on May 13th, 2005, Applicants have elected Group I including claims 1-4, 10-20 and 30-42.

2. Claims 10-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Ehlers et al. (US 6,216,956). Ehlers et al. is directed to an indoor environmental condition control and energy management system including a plurality of inputs. However, Ehlers et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest all of the elements of the claims.

For example, Ehlers et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest a memory including a static unique identification number, as in claim 10. As stated in the Office Action, the Patent Office appears to rely on Ehlers' et al. disclosure of a password for teaching a static unique identification number. However, in the paragraphs referenced by the Patent Office (col. 28, lines 33-64), Ehlers et al. discloses changing the password. As such, the password is changed and therefore is NOT a static unique identification number. Therefore, Ehlers et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest all of the elements of claim 10. Thus, claim 10 is allowable.

Claims 11-19 depend from an allowable claim and are thus allowable. Furthermore, claims 11-19 include additional subject matter not anticipated by Ehlers et al. For example, Ehlers et al. is silent regarding data integrity in the event of a change in address, a change in host, or cross host exchange of sensed data. In addition, Ehlers et al. is silent regarding a universal serial bus (USB) interface and an audio sensor. For at least the reasons stated above, claims 10-19 are not anticipated by Ehlers et al. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C.102 (b) rejection of claims 10-19 under Ehlers et al.

3. Claims 30, 32, 34-39, and 41-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Barrett et al. (US 5,216,623). Barrett et al. is directed to a system for monitoring various diverse energy characteristics of an energy consuming system. The system includes a data gathering device that accumulates data representing each of the sensed energy characteristics in real time. The data represents magnitude of the sensed energy characteristics as well as the time at which the magnitude is sensed. However, Barrett et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest all the elements of independent claim 30.

Specifically, Barrett et al fails to teach or remotely suggest a memory including a static identification number. In addition, Barrett et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest processing circuitry configured to associate the static identification number with sensor data. As such, Barrett et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest all the elements of independent claim 30. Thus, claim 30 is not anticipated by Barrett et al.

Claims 32, 34-39 and 41-42 depend from claim 30 and are thus also not anticipated by Barrett et al. In addition, claims 32, 34-39 and 41-42 include additional subject matter not anticipated by Barrett et al. For example, Barrett et al. fails to disclose a temperature sensor and a humidity sensor located inside the sensor device housing, as in claim 32. Further, Barrett et al. fails to disclose a serial data interface and, in particular, fails to disclose a universal serial bus (USB) interface, as in claim 34. In referencing col. 6, lines 9-12 of Barrett et al., the Patent Office appears to rely on nine different analog interfaces and appears to characterize the nine different analog interfaces as a single serial interface. Applicants respectfully disagree that nine different analog interfaces constitute a single serial interface and further disagree that such nine different analog interfaces can be characterized as a universal serial bus (USB) interface. In addition, Barrett et al. does not discuss determining a dew point and fails to disclose a digital temperature sensor. For at least the foregoing reasons, Barrett et al. fails to anticipate claims 30, 32, 34-39, and 41-42. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) rejection of claims 30, 32, 34-39, and 41-42.

4. Claims 1-4, 33, and 40 were rejected under 35U.S.C.103 (a) as being unpatentable over Barrett et al. (US 5,216,623) in view of Ehlers et al. (US 6,216,956). The PTO correctly acknowledges that Barrett et al. fails to explicitly disclose a memory responsive to the processing circuitry and including a static identification number and fails to disclose a universal serial bus interface coupled to the processing circuitry. The PTO further acknowledges that Barrett et al. fails to disclose a USB interface configured to provide access to measured data associated with sensors and that the measured data is associated with the static identification number. To overcome these deficiencies, the PTO relies on Ehlers et al.

However, the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or remotely suggest all of the elements of claim 1. Specifically, Barrett et al. and Ehlers et al. fail to teach or remotely suggest a static unique identification number, as in claim 1. Further Barrett et al. and Ehlers et al. fail to teach or remotely suggest a universal serial bus (USB) interface. As such, the combination of Ehlers et al. and Barrett et al. fails to teach or remotely suggest all of the elements of claim 1. In addition, Barrett et al. and Ehlers et al. fail to teach or remotely suggests a static unique identification number, as in claim 30.

Claims 2-4, 33, and 40 depend from allowable claims and, as such, are also allowable. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1-4, 33 and 40 are patentable over Barrett et al. in view of Ehlers et al. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 1-4, 33 and 40.

5. Claim 20 was rejected under 35.U.S.C.103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ehlers et al. (US 6,216,956) in view of Barrett et al. (US 5,216,623). The PTO acknowledges that Ehlers et al. failed to explicitly disclose an internal humidity sensor responsive to processing circuitry and internal to a housing, and an external temperature sensor responsive to the processing circuitry and external to a housing. The PTO appears to rely on Barrett et al. to overcome these deficiencies. However, neither Ehlers et al. nor Barrett et al. teach or remotely suggest all of the elements of claim 20.

For example, Ehlers et al. and Barrett et al. fail to teach or remotely suggest, alone or in combination, an internal humidity sensor or an internal temperature sensor. The PTO appears to incorrectly imply that indoor and outdoor temperature sensors disclosed by Barrett et al. refer to temperature sensors internal and external to a housing of a sensor device. In fact, Barrett's et al. disclosure of indoor and outdoor temperature sensors refers merely to temperature sensors that may be used interior to a building and exterior to a building. Barrett et al. does not disclose temperature sensors internal and external to a housing of a sensor device. As such, claim 20 is patentable over Ehlers et al. in view of Barrett et al. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claim 20.

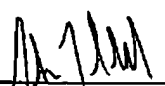
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to reconsider the Application and to issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims. If, for any reason, the Office is unable to allow the Application on the next Office Action, and believes a telephone interview would be helpful, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney or agent.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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